

I strongly oppose any attempt to relax rules against cross-ownership of media outlets.

It is nearly impossible now to obtain balanced media coverage of any issues important to ordinary citizens. Most TV and radio media outlets are controlled by wealthy corporate special interests that they censor and slant news and all other messages in ways favorable to the corporate owners. This is also too true of newspapers in many markets, as almost all of them have only one daily newspaper.

Often news coverage by major TV networks is actually dishonest, and always censored and unbalanced.

The FCC has gone far to smother opportunities for the public to be informed, by eliminating restrictions on the number of major radio or TV outlets a single owner could control.

Its failure to allow small neighborhood FM stations to operate eliminates the last option for allowing alternative views of important issues to be heard.

Relaxation of the cross-ownership rules would allow a single media corporation--usually one tied to other corporate interests--to be the sole source of information available in almost all markets in the country.

Like other recent rule changes enacted by the FCC, this is a serious attack on the ability of citizens to be informed of important issues, and hence an attack on the very concept of the democracy. Don't do it.